

NFL urges teams to offer stadiums as vaccination centers

January 8 2021



The National Football League is asking teams to use their stadiums as

places people can go to get vaccinated for COVID-19, *CBS News* reported Wednesday.

"We have encouraged clubs to contact their state and local health departments to offer stadiums and practice facilities, if practical, to serve as sites for vaccinating the [general public](#)," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said in a statement Tuesday. "These will be decisions between the clubs and their local officials based on need, location, and availability."

Using arenas for vaccinations is not a new idea. The University of Michigan Big House, the nation's largest college football [stadium](#), became a vaccine center and can vaccinate up to 2,000 people a day. Former hockey stadium Broadbent Arena in Kentucky is another vaccination location.

In Massachusetts, Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox, is expected to be a vaccination site. The state's firefighters' union chief told *CBS News* that Gillette Stadium, home of the New England Patriots, could also become a vaccination site. In Miami, Hard Rock Stadium, where the Dolphins play, is also expected to be a vaccine center, the *Tampa Bay Times* reported.

The NFL would benefit from Americans being vaccinated because it increases the odds that state officials will reopen stadiums. Closed stadiums mean teams are not making money from [ticket sales](#), concession stands, merchandise, and other revenue sources, like in-stadium advertising.

More information: [CBS News Article](#)

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Citation: NFL urges teams to offer stadiums as vaccination centers (2021, January 8) retrieved 5 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-01-nfl-urges-teams-stadiums-vaccination.html>

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